

CLASSIFICATION <u>SECRET</u>		
COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u>	REPORT	
TOPIC <u>Koethen Airfield</u>		25X1
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EVALUATION <u></u>	PLACE OBTAINED <u></u>	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT <u></u>		25X1
DATE OBTAINED <u></u>	DATE PREPARED <u>10 June 1954</u>	25X1
REFERENCES <u></u>		
PAGES <u>2</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) <u></u>	
REMARKS <u></u>		
This is UNEVALUATED		
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1. Air activity was observed at Koethen airfield on 5, 6, 7, 14 April and on 11 May. Usually, formation flights were made in elements of twos and flights of threes, each flight lasting 15 to 20 minutes. Other aircraft individually took off and made short local flights of 3 to 4 minutes duration. Air activity involved 3 U-MiG-15s.

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On 11 May, 9 MiG-15s and U-MiG-15s approached from the south at an altitude of about 2,000 meters. Source noted that the aircraft had considerably reduced their speed. Over the field, the aircraft peeled off over the left wing and then made a steep dive down to about 500 meters. Subsequently, the aircraft climbed to 2,000 meters and repeated the dives. A total of 29 MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s were counted at the field on 11 April and 26 on 14 April.

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2. On all the days of observation, the AA gun emplacement in the southeastern corner of the field was occupied by 5 or 6 guns. On 11 May, two radio trucks, including one with an antenna mast about 10 meters high, were parked at the take-off point. 2

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3. A motor vehicle driving school was observed in the vicinity of the field.

4. Throughout the days between 20 and 27 April, there was intensive air activity by MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s which mostly practiced diving individually and in formations of threes. At the same time, other MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s practiced take-offs, local flights and landings. On 5 May, 2 biplanes continuously took off. Over the field, a parachutist jumped from each plane. After a descent of about 400 meters, the parachutists opened a small red parachute and subsequently a standard chute. After landing, the jumpers immediately stood up while the parachutes fell together. In the middle of the field was a truck and a group of about 40 soldiers who aided the parachutists after their descent. Air activity by MiG-15s and U-MiG-15s

At 3 a.m.

on 11 April, MiG-15s and U-MiG-15s were observed flying in the beams of several searchlights. Attacks were made on these aircraft. 1

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5. Construction work was completed on a wooden building, about 10 x 8 meters, with a veranda-like front part, located in the shrubby area in the southeastern corner of the field. From the location of the building source inferred that this building was to serve as an guard shack.

6. On 3 May, a motor vehicle with van-like superstructure without windows and next to it a braced mast, about 7 meters high, were observed between the revetments in the northeastern corner of the field. At the mast head was a basket-shaped antenna which was about 60 cm high, about 10 cm in diameter at the top and 30 cm in diameter at the bottom. On 6 May, a truck with a van-like superstructure and a mast, 8 to 9 meters high and with dipoles at the top, were observed on Pilsenhoehe, south of Koethen, west of Baasdorf.

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Three air force soldiers lay in the grass next to the truck. 2

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7. Vehicular traffic observed repeatedly involved motor vehicles of the driving school

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1. Comment. Koethen airfield is occupied by a fighter regiment equipped with about 28 MiG-15s. aircraft were previously observed in Grossenhain, in Merseburg, in Altenburg, in Zerbst, in Laerz, and in Koethen.

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2. Comment. According to available information, 1 Token-type radar set, 1 Kniferest-type radar set and 1 Fishnet-type radar set are believed to be located at Koethen airfield.

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